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This investigation revealed the existence of many objectionable practices and discriminating rates, due for the most part to the conditions of competition under which the grain carrying was being done. The reorganized Western Traffic Association is now trying to terminate the worst forms of discrimination.

The report contains among other things of interest a discussion of railway associations and traffic agreements, and an outline of the organization and work of the railway departments for the relief and insurance of employes.

The four more important of the nine amendments that the Commission recommends Congress to make to the Interstate Commerce Law are (1) That the procedure of the courts in enforcing orders of the Commission shall be confined to the record made up of the testimony taken and proceedings had before the Commission; (2) That when the Commission, after giving the carriers concerned a full hearing, "has determined what is unlawful, it shall be its duty to prescribe what is lawful in respect to" rates, etc.; (3) That the Commission be given the power to prescribe a uniform classification of freight; and (4) That a cumulative fine be imposed on carriers that neglect to submit their annual report by September 15.

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THE LAST VOLUME of the new revised edition of Villari's "Machiavelli" \* has appeared. There are, as in the preceding volumes, few changes except in detail. Some new documents have been added in the appendix, notably some of the letters of Acciaiuoli, the representative of Clement VII and of Florence in France in the year 1526.

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#### REVIEWS.

*The Historical Development of Modern Europe from the Congress of Vienna to the Present Time.* BY CHARLES M. ANDREWS, Associate Professor of History in Bryn Mawr College. Vol. I, 1815-1850, Pp. 457. Price, \$2.50. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1896.

The historian may, as Horace says of the poet, aim primarily either to please or to instruct his readers, for history may be conceived in two radically different ways. It may be looked upon as an account of the conspicuous and picturesque events of the past, with little regard to their real significance, or it may be viewed as the attempt to discern the fundamentally important, but often quite obscure and gradual movements that have made for progress. I do not know that I have ever seen so long an historical treatise as that of Dr. Andrews,

\* *Niccolò Machiavelli e i suoi Tempi illustrati con nuovi Documenti.* By PASQUALE VILLARI, 2d Edition, revised and corrected by the author, Vol. iii, Pp. 578. Price of complete work, 15 lire. Milan: U. Hoepli, 1897.

which adhered more consciously and consistently to the second ideal. His work belongs to the same class as, Lamprecht's "*Deutsche Geschichte*," a type of book which is characteristic of an essentially modern and scientific conception of history.

While Dr. Andrews makes no claims to have based any considerable portion of his treatise upon original sources, he is eminently fitted by scholarly training in the use of historical material to exploit, for the benefit of the English reading public, the results reached by the ablest continental investigators.

The difficulty of presenting in a clear and concise form the essential elements of the rapid and complex changes in a half a dozen of the great states of Europe during the past seventy-five years, is so great that any one who solves the problem with even a tolerable measure of success deserves our respect. Yet, measured by the standard of conciseness, skillful arrangement, true perspective and philosophic grasp, Dr. Andrews' treatment furnishes not only an admirable account of the period, but is the best account we possess. Fyffe's "Modern Europe," in spite of qualities which endear it to many of us, is sadly wanting in proportion and symmetry and is often confused, if not inaccurate. It is not necessary to speak of such works as Bulle's "*Geschichte der neuesten Zeit*," for although perhaps the most careful and detailed account of the period it would for obvious reasons rarely come into the hands of American or English readers, nor would it satisfy their needs, if it were available.

Dr. Andrews has chosen, and upon very good grounds, to arrange his work, not chronologically, but with a regard to the course of national and of international currents of change. His arrangement is skillful, and I believe on the whole original. After a very judicious introductory résumé of the Revolutionary and Napoleonic period up to the departure of Napoleon for Elba, the author devotes a chapter to Europe during the thirty or forty years succeeding the First Peace of Paris. This insures a continuity which is too often sacrificed by an artificial break made by historical writers, at the close of the Congress of Vienna. The period of European concert, as expressed in the reconstruction of Europe and the theory of *Intervention*, is thus regarded, as it should be, as a whole. A second advantage is derived from this method of treatment since it is possible to deal with the relations of the central European states to the outlying countries of Spain, Greece, Poland, Hungary, etc., which cannot well be considered by themselves. This chapter thus best subserves the interests of the reader, while it leaves the writer free to take up in separate chapters the internal changes in France, Germany and Italy previous to 1848. The revolutionary

movements of 1848-49 tax every power of the historian, for it is necessary to show the constant interdependence of a dozen intricate political, constitutional, military and national movements, each with its own peculiar antecedents and characteristics. Dr. Andrews, after disposing of the most independent of the movements, that in France, cleverly chooses Vienna as the unifying element in the course of affairs, not only in Austria but in Germany and Italy as well. In this way he brings together in perhaps their truest relations, a series of divergent and independent events, which were, however, far too intimately associated to be treated by themselves.

The peculiar excellences of Dr. Andrews' book, imply, however, some drawbacks. Its strictly logical order and studious regard for the essential will preclude, it is to be feared, any except the rather experienced reader from deriving from it what he should. He must already be somewhat familiar with the externals at least of the history of modern Europe, not because these are necessary to *understand* Professor Andrews' eminently clear and philosophical presentation, but because they serve to illustrate, reinforce and give concreteness to rather abstract statements, which will otherwise scarcely sink into the memory. The writer has, in short, done his work so completely that the mind of the reader is not aroused to the activity which leaves a lasting impression. All that is said, for example, of the "July days" is said between commas, or by way of parenthesis. Fyffe, on the other hand, and it is his great merit, uses the events to illustrate tendencies and conditions. If we would do the greatest number of readers the greatest possible good we must not altogether divorce the important from the picturesque.

*"Omne tulit punctum qui miscuit utile dulci."*

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*The United States of America, 1765-1865.* By EDWARD CHANNING, PH. D. Cambridge Historical Series. Pp. ix, 352. Price, \$1.50. London and New York: The Macmillan Co., 1896.

To successfully compress the history of the United States, into the brief space of three hundred pages, is a task so difficult, that few of our historians would willingly undertake it. Such a work should attempt to give no more than a bird's-eye view of the field, and should pass over in silence all minor details. With this thought in mind the reviewer is at a loss to know what to say of a book in which the proportionate estimate of events is such, that considerably more than a third of its pages are devoted to the first twenty years of our history, that passes over, in a scant eighty pages, the mighty period beginning